

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232238 TOSEC 140041

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 9709, SENT SECSTATE SEPTEMBER 30:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9708

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US

SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE AT OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS

1. YOU WILL RECALL THAT LAST YEAR EGYPTIAN NOSES WERE MUCH OUT OF JOINT BECAUSE OF MY FAILURE ATTEND OCTOBER 6 CELEBRATIONS AFTER OUR RECENT TALK ON THE SUBJECT IN ALEXANDRIA, I TOLD DATT (BG SVENDSEN) HE COULD ATTEND ON MILITARY SIDE. MY THOUGHTS WAS TO BE OUT OF TOWN SOMEWHERE IN EGYPT AND LET DCM MAESTRONE ATTEND ON CIVILIAN SIDE AS HE DID LAST YEAR. SINCE I WILL PROBABLY BE OUT OF THE COUNTRY ON OCTOBER 6, QUESTION ARISES WHETHER MAESTRONE SHOULD ATTEND IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHARGE.

2. IN MY JUDGMENT, HE SHOULD DO SO SINCE GOE WILL OTHERWISE SEE IT AS ANOTHER GRATUITOUS SNUB. ANY SUCH IMPRESSION
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IS CLEARLY UNDESIRABLE ON EVE OF SADAT'S VISIT TO US. I

RECOGNIZE THIS MIGHT CAUSE SOME RAISED EYEBROWS
IN SOME AMERICAN CIRCLES, BUT WE MUST RECKON WITH FACT
THAT OCTOBER 6 IS GOING TO BE AN ANNUAL HOLIDAY.
SOONER WE REGULARIZE OUT ATTENDANCE PATTERN, THE
BETTER FOR OUR RELATIONS WITH EGYPT. IT'S A SMALL
THING, BUT ITS SYMBOLIC SIGNIFICANCE IS DISPROPORTIONATE
HERE.

3. PLEASE ADVISE YOUR WISHES. EILTS UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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NNN

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